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Approval of American Society of Mechanical Engineers' Code Cases

Comment On: NRC-2009-0359-0004

Approval of American Society of Mechanical Engineers' Code Cases; Draft Regulatory Guides

Document: NRC-2009-0359-DRAFT-0013

Comment on FR Doc # 2013-15021

Submitter Information

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General Comment

September 9, 2013

Ms. Cindy K. Bladey

Chief, Rules, Announcements and Directives Branch

Office of Administration

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Comments on Draft Regulatory Guides DG-1230, DG -1231, DG-1232, DG-1233, and the Proposed Rule Incorporating the Final Revisions of Regulatory Guides 1.84, 1.147, and 1.192 into 10 CFR 50.55a, Docket ID NRC-2009-0359

Project Number: 689

Dear Ms. Bladey:

In Federal Register notices 78FR37721, 78FR37848 and 78FR37886, the NRC requested public comments on its proposal to amend its regulations to incorporate by reference the latest revision of three NRC regulatory guides (RG) that would approve new and revised Code Cases published by the American Society of Mechanical

Engineers (ASME) and one RG that delineates Code Cases not approved. This proposal also addresses a Petition for Rulemaking and re-sequencing the order of the NRC's requirements governing Codes and standards to comply with the Office of the Federal Register's (OFR) guidelines for incorporating by reference.

NEI is pleased that the NRC utilizes the voluntary consensus standard ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel (BPV) and Operations and Maintenance (OM) Code Cases. The ASME-approved Code Cases are alternatives for compliance with certain Code requirements. The implementation of acceptable Code Cases provides licensees with alternatives in meeting the engineering standards established for construction, maintenance, in-service inspection (ISI) and in-service testing (IST) of nuclear power plant components.

On behalf of the industry, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) submits the following comments for NRC consideration. In addition, NEI supports the comments submitted on August 29, 2013, by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

NEI's comments address the following:

1. NEI supports the Petition for Rulemaking, PRM-50-89, requesting that the NRC amend its regulations to allow consideration of alternatives to the ASME BPV and OM Code Cases. The possibility of implementing an alternative to a Code Case approved the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation will reduce the administrative burden on licensees and significantly reduce the lengthy process of proposing and gaining acceptance for a change or modification to a Code Case.
2. NEI generally agrees that the proposed RGs and related documents are written in a clear and effective manner, consistent with the Plain Writing Act and the Presidential Memorandum, "Plain Language in Government Writing." Well-written regulatory guidance documents support their correct interpretation and implementation.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Richter

Attachments

09-09-13_NRC_Comments on Draft Regulatory Guides DG-1230, DG -1231, DG-1232, DG-1233

MARK A. RICHTER, PH.D.
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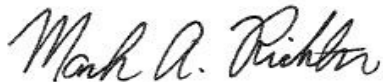
Ms. Cindy K. Bladey
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Page 2

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark A. Richter".

Mark A. Richter

From: [Gallagher, Carol](#)
To: [RulemakingComments.Resource](#)
Subject: Comment on Proposed Rule - Apprval of American Society of Mechanical Engineers" Code Cases
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 3:23:33 PM
Attachments: [Binder1.pdf - Adobe Acrobat Pro.pdf](#)

Attached for docketing is a comment from Mark Richter, NEI, on the above noted proposed rule (78 FR 37885; June 24, 2013) that I received via the regulations.gov website on September 9, 2013.

Thanks,
Carol